

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA
Norfolk Division**

NORRIS E. LAWRENCE, III, #312286,

Petitioner,

v.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 2:06cv152

GENE M. JOHNSON, Director of the
Virginia Department of Corrections,

Respondent.

FINAL ORDER

This matter was initiated by petition for a writ of habeas corpus under 28 U.S.C. § 2254. The petition alleges violation of federal rights pertaining to Petitioner's conviction on March 28, 2002, in the Circuit Court of the City of Norfolk, Virginia, for robbery, use of a firearm in the commission of a felony, and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Petitioner was sentenced to fifty (50) years in prison, of which twenty (20) years was suspended.

The matter was referred to a United States Magistrate Judge, pursuant to the provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(B) and (C), Rule 72(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and Rule 72 of the Rules of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, for report and recommendation. The report of the Magistrate Judge recommending dismissal of the petition was filed on December 6, 2006. By copy of the report, each party was advised of his right to file written objections to the findings and recommendations made by the Magistrate Judge. The Court has

received no objections to the Magistrate Judge's Report and Recommendation, and the time for filing same has expired.

The Court hereby ADOPTS the findings and recommendations set forth in the report of the United States Magistrate Judge filed on December 6, 2006, and it is, therefore, ORDERED that the petition be DENIED and DISMISSED as the claims are procedurally defaulted and barred by the statute of limitations. It is, therefore, ORDERED that judgment be entered in favor of Respondent.

Petitioner may appeal from the judgment entered pursuant to this Final Order by filing a written notice of appeal with the Clerk of this court, United States Courthouse, 600 Granby Street, Norfolk, Virginia 23510, within thirty (30) days from the date of entry of such judgment. Petitioner has failed to demonstrate "a substantial showing of the denial of a constitutional right." Therefore, the Court, pursuant to Rule 22(b) of the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure, declines to issue a certificate of appealability. See Miller-El v. Cockrell, 537 U.S. 322, 335-36 (2003).

The Clerk shall mail a copy of this Order to Petitioner and to counsel of record for Respondent.

Entered on January 3, 2007

_____/s/
Rebecca Beach Smith
United States District Judge